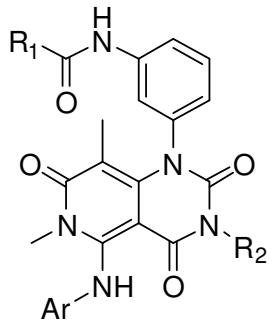
**Claims**

1. Use of a MEK inhibitor of formula (I),



formula (I),

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein;

$R_1$ is a C1-C6 alkyl, such as methyl,

$R_2$ is a C1-C6 alkyl or a C3 or C4 cycloalkyl, such as cyclopropyl,

Ar is selected from the group consisting of aryl and heteroaryl;

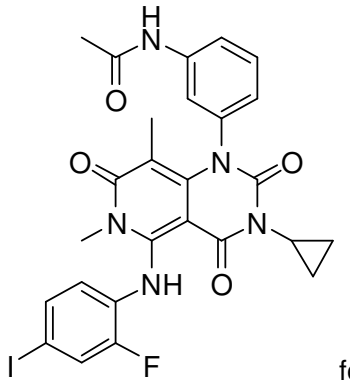
in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention or treatment of a stroke in a subject.

2. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein $R_1$ is methyl or ethyl.

3. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein $R_2$ is C3 or C4 cycloalkyl.

4. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein Ar is phenyl or substituted phenyl.

5. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the MEK inhibitor is of formula (II),



formula (II),

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stroke is selected from the group consisting of: ischemic stroke, haemorrhagic stroke, and transient ischemic attack.

7. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stroke is selected from the group consisting of: global ischemia and focal ischemia.

8. The use according to any one of ~~the preceding~~ claims 6 or 7, wherein the ischemic stroke results from an embolism, thrombosis, systemic hypoperfusion, cerebral venous sinus thrombosis, a sudden drop in blood pressure or heart stop, rupture of a cerebral artery or arteriole, or a combination thereof.

9. The use according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 6, wherein the haemorrhagic stroke results from intracerebral haemorrhage, subarachnoid haemorrhage, or a combination thereof.

10. The use according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 9, wherein the intracerebral haemorrhage is intraparenchymal, intraventricular, or a combination thereof.

11. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stroke results from subarachnoid haemorrhage (SAH).

12. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stroke results from Ischemic Brain Injury (TBI).

13. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stroke is a delayed cerebral ischemia (DCI).

14. The use according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 13, wherein the DCI presents with inflammation, oedema, delayed cerebral vasospasm (CVS), blood-brain barrier disruption and/or increase in contractile receptor expression, such as those for endothelin, angiotensin, serotonin and thromboxane or prostaglandins.

15. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the MEK inhibitor is to be administered to the subject prior to, concurrent with, or subsequent to thrombectomy.

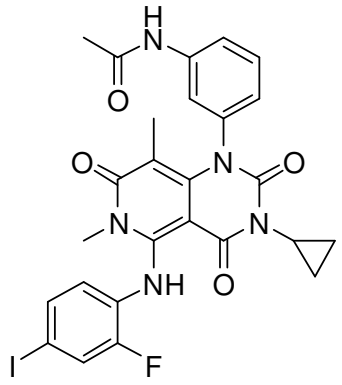
16. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the MEK inhibitor is to be administered to the subject prior to, concurrent with, or subsequent to thrombolysis.

17. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the MEK inhibitor is to be administered to the subject prior to, concurrent with, or subsequent to a surgical procedure selected from the group consisting of: coiling and clipping.

18. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the MEK inhibitor is to be administered to the subject prior to, concurrent with, or subsequent to a neuroradiological procedure, and wherein the MEK inhibitor reduces or prevents reperfusion damage resulting from the neuroradiological procedure.

19. The use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the MEK inhibitor is to be administered to the subject up to 6 hours subsequent to the onset of the stroke, such as up to 1 hour, such as up to 2 hours, such as up to 3 hours, such as up to 4 hours, such as up to 5 hours subsequent to the onset of the stroke, or wherein the MEK inhibitor is to be administered one or more times daily for up to 3 days subsequent to the onset of the stroke.

20. A composition comprising ~~, separately or together,~~ the MEK inhibitor of formula (II),



formula (II),

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a further medicament selected from the group consisting of: a calcium channel blocker, such as Nimodipine, and an endothelin receptor (ET) receptor blocker, such as clazosentan.